maintained as continuous cell division and differentiation takes place. Cells undergoing apoptosis often exhibit distinctive morphological changes such as a pronounced decrease in cell volume, modification of the cytoskeletons resulting in pronounced membrane blebbing, a condensation of the chromatin, and degradation of the DNA into oligonucleosomal fragments. Following these morphological changes, an apoptotic cell may break up into a number of small fragments known as apoptotic bodies, consisting essentially of membrane-bound bodies containing intact organelles, chromatin, etc. Apoptotic bodies are normally rapidly removed from the body by phagocytosis by macrophages, dendritic cells and other antigen presenting cells, before they can become lysed and release their potentially pro-inflammatory intracellular contents.

B1

Please amend the paragraph at page 3, lines 3-16, to read as follows:

--Many cells undergoing apoptosis can be identified by a characteristic 'laddering' of DNA seen on agarose gel electrophoresis, resulting from cleavage of DNA into a series of fragments. These changes occur a few hours before death of the cell as defined by the ability of a cell to exclude vital dyes. The appearance of DNA laddering on agarose gel electrophoresis following extraction of DNA from cells is one recognised method of identification of apoptosis in cells [Loo, D.T. and Rillema, J.R. (1998) "Measurement of Cell Death," *Methods in Cell Biology* **57**: 251-264], although it is not always sensitive enough to detect apoptosis. *In situ* labelling of nuclear DNA fragmentation, for example, using commercially available terminal dUTP nick end labelling (TUNEL) assays, is an alternative and more reproducible measure for the determination of fragmented DNA in apoptotic cells and cells undergoing apoptosis [Gavrieli Y, Sherman Y, Ben-Sasson SA (1992)", Identification of programmed cell death in situ via specific labelling of nuclear DNA fragmentation". *Journal of Cell Biology* **119:** 493-501].--

B2